IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-10 (Canceled)

11. (Original) A method of propagating a signal, comprising:

designating a period of time spanned by a pulse, said period of time divided into a group of time slots, each of said time slots having a unique phase/time position; and causing said pulse to encode a data element by said phase/time position.

- 12. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 11 wherein said data is ascertainable by mapping.
- 13. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 11 wherein said time slots in said group are adjacent.
- 14. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 11 wherein said time slots in said group are not adjacent.
- 15. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 11 wherein said time slots have a non-uniform spacing.
- 16. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 11 wherein more than one pulse is located within said group of time slots.

- 17. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 11 wherein said group encodes data that is more than fifteen bits long.
- 18. (Original) The propagated signal as recited in Claim 11 wherein said element of data is selected from the group consisting of:

a header;

an error detection message;

a synchronization element; and

a data message.

- 19. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 11 further comprising designating a plurality of said groups.
- 20. (Original) The propagated signal as recited in Claim 18 wherein said groups have differing numbers of time slots.